

---

HOUSE BILL 1298

---

State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Green, Campbell, Cody, Morrell, Moeller and Conway

Read first time 01/16/2007. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1            AN ACT Relating to dental hygiene; and amending RCW 18.29.056 and  
2 18.29.220.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.29.056 and 1997 c 37 s 2 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) Dental hygienists licensed under this chapter with two years'  
7 practical clinical experience with a licensed dentist within the  
8 preceding five years may be employed or retained by health care  
9 facilities to perform authorized dental hygiene operations and services  
10 without dental supervision, limited to removal of deposits and stains  
11 from the surfaces of the teeth, application of topical preventive or  
12 prophylactic agents, polishing and smoothing restorations, and  
13 performance of root planing and soft-tissue curettage, but shall not  
14 perform injections of anesthetic agents, administration of nitrous  
15 oxide, or diagnosis for dental treatment. The performance of dental  
16 hygiene operations and services in health care facilities shall be  
17 limited to patients, students, and residents of the facilities. For  
18 dental planning and dental treatment, dental hygienists shall refer  
19 patients to licensed dentists.

1 (2) For the purposes of this section, "health care facilities" are  
2 limited to hospitals; nursing homes; centers where seniors congregate;  
3 home health agencies; group homes serving the elderly, (~~handicapped~~)  
4 individuals with disabilities, and juveniles; state-operated  
5 institutions under the jurisdiction of the department of social and  
6 health services or the department of corrections; and federal, state,  
7 and local public health facilities, state or federally funded community  
8 and migrant health centers, and tribal clinics.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.29.220 and 2001 c 93 s 3 are each amended to read  
10 as follows:

11 (1) For low-income, rural, and other at-risk populations and in  
12 coordination with local public health jurisdictions and local oral  
13 health coalitions, a dental hygienist licensed in this state as of  
14 April 19, 2001, may assess for and apply sealants and apply fluoride  
15 varnishes in community-based sealant programs carried out in schools  
16 without attending the department's school sealant endorsement program.

17 (2) For low-income, rural, and other at-risk populations and in  
18 coordination with local public health jurisdictions and local oral  
19 health coalitions, dental hygienists who are school sealant endorsed  
20 under RCW 43.70.650 may assess for and apply sealants and fluoride  
21 varnishes, and may remove deposits and stains from the surfaces of  
22 teeth, in community-based sealant programs carried out in schools.

--- END ---